

## B. Definitions

### 1. Abbreviations

ACOE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
AG	Agriculture
AM	Alkali Marsh
BEPA	Bald [and Golden] Eagle Protection Act
CALTRANS	California Department of Transportation
CB	Coastal Bluffs
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CE	California endangered species
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CT	California threatened species
CHP	Chaparral
CLOW	Coast Live Oak Woodland
CNDDDB	California Natural Diversity Data Base
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CSC	California Species of (Special) Concern
CSS	Coastal Sage Scrub
EW	Eucalyptus Woodland
ESA	Endangered Species Act (Federal)
FE	Federally listed endangered species
FPE, FPT	Proposed for federal listing as endangered (E) or threatened (T)
FT	Federally listed threatened species
FWM	Freshwater marsh
G	Grassland
GIS	Geographic Information System
GMP	Growth Management Plan/Program
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
HMP	Habitat Management Plan
LFMZ	Local Facilities Management Zone
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MHCP	(North County) Multiple Habitat Conservation Program
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MSS	Maritime Succulent Scrub
NCCP	Natural Community Conservation Plan (Planning)
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NG	Native Grassland
NNG	Non-native Grassland
OMSP	Ongoing Multi-Species Plan
OW	Oak Woodland
R	Riparian
RF	Riparian Forest
RW	Riparian Woodland
SANDAG	San Diego Association of Governments
SM	Salt Marsh
SMC	Southern Maritime Chaparral
SRA	Special Resource Area
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
var	variety
VLC	Villages of La Costa
VP	Vernal Pool

## **2. Definitions**

**Assurances:** Mutual agreements and covenants contained in the Implementation Agreement which bind the parties to specified actions and provide each party with benefits. The benefits include, for example, authorization for incidental take of species in accordance with the HMP, and conservation of species resulting from actions to implement the plan.

**Authorizations:** Permits for incidental take of species in accordance with the HMP.

**Changed Circumstances:** Those circumstances affecting a species or geographic area that can be reasonably anticipated and planned for.

**Conserve:** To keep from loss, decay or depletion; maintain, protect. Conservation and preservation are similar terms and are used in much the same way. Preservation connotes the act of securing the land and its values, whereas conservation generally is more broad and includes activities such as management of the land and its resources.

**Conservation:** As defined in the federal Endangered Species Act, the use of all methods and procedures which are necessary to bring any endangered or threatened species to the point at which the measures provided pursuant to the Act are no longer necessary; such measures and procedures include, but are not limited to, all activities associated with scientific resource management such as research, census, law enforcement, habitat acquisition and management, propagation, live trapping and transportation, and in rare cases, regulated taking (ESA, Section 3[3]). In this plan, conservation also applies to all actions related to providing a viable habitat preserve system in the City.

**Core:** A component of the preserve system established under the HMP, consisting of large blocks of conserved habitat capable of sustaining species over time. (Also see HMP Cores and MHCP Core).

**Corridor:** A defined tract of land, usually linear, through which a species must travel to reach habitat suitable for reproduction and other life-sustaining needs.

**Covered species:** A species for which take authorization would be provided because long-term viability was determined to be adequately maintained under a particular preserve design. The federal action addressed in this document is the issuance of incidental take permits from all species on the covered species list whether they currently are listed or are listed in the future.

**Critical Location:** An area that must be conserved substantially for that species to be adequately conserved by the MHCP. Critical locations often coincide with major populations, but not all major populations are considered critical.

**Endangered Species:** Any plant or animal in danger of extinction in all or a significant part of its range.

**Endangered Species Act:** Federal Act of 1973, as amended, 16 U.S.C. Sections 1531-1543; and California Act of 1984, as amended, California Fish and Game Code, Sections 2050-2098.

**Existing Hardlines:** Areas which have already been conserved for their wildlife value due to actions occurring in the past. Examples include onsite open space required to be set aside as part of approval of a development project and areas that have been purchased and set aside as mitigation for project impacts.

**Focus Planning Area Map:** A map included as Figure 4 of this plan, which depicts the lands of high biological value that will be considered for conservation or development as part of this plan. The map includes HMP Cores, Linkage Areas, and Special Resource Areas, as defined.

**Habitat:** The combination of environmental conditions of a specific place occupied by a species or a population of such species.

**Harass:** A form of incidental take under the federal Endangered Species Act; defined in federal regulations as an intentional or negligent act or omission which creates the likelihood of injury to wildlife by annoying it to such an extent as to significantly disrupt normal behavioral patterns which include, but are not limited to, breeding, feeding or sheltering (50 CFR 17.3).

**Harm:** A form of incidental take under the federal Endangered Species Act; defined in federal regulations as an act which actually kills or injures wildlife. Such acts may include significant habitat modification or degradation where it actually kills or injures wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including breeding, feeding, or sheltering (50 CFR 17.3).

**HMP Cores:** Areas within the Focus Planning Area Map (Figure 4) which consist of blocks of habitat that are sufficiently large to reliably support breeding populations of species, or that are large and intact enough to form ecologically functional areas for preserve design.

**Implementing Agreement:** A binding legal agreement between the City of Carlsbad, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the California Department of Fish and Game providing assurances to all three parties and providing authorization to the City for incidental take of species in accordance with this plan.

**Incidental Take:** The taking of a federally listed wildlife species, if such taking is incidental to and not the purpose of carrying out otherwise lawful activities. (Also see Take.)

**Linkage:** A component of the preserve system established under the HMP, consisting of conserved habitat that provides connectivity between Cores and to natural communities within the region. Linkages are depicted on the Focus planning Area Map (Figure 4).

**Major Population:** A population considered sufficiently large to be self-sustaining with a minimum of active or intensive management intervention (especially for plants) or that at least support enough breeding individuals to contribute reliably to the overall metapopulation stability of the species (especially for animals). Also includes smaller populations that nonetheless are considered important to long-term species survival.

**Metapopulation:** A network of semi-isolated breeding populations of a species that have some level of regular or intermittent migration and gene flow among them. (See also Population).

**MHCP Core:** A large habitat area in the unincorporated, County area to the southeast of Carlsbad, which the MHCP is proposing as a subregional biological core area.

**Mitigation:** Measures undertaken to diminish or compensate for the negative impacts of a project or activity on the environment, including: (a) avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action; (b) minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation; (c) rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment; (d) reducing or

eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action; or (e) compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

**Narrow Endemic Species:** Native species with restricted geographic distributions, soil affinities and/or habitats, and for purposes of the HMP, species that in addition have important populations within the Plan area, such that substantial loss of these populations or their habitat within the HMP area might jeopardize the continued existence or recovery of that species.

**Ongoing Multi-Species Plan:** A conservation planning effort, such as the HMP, which was initiated and substantially underway prior to the passage of the NCCP Act of 1992.

**Population:** A group of individuals of a given species that inhabits a relatively well defined geographic area and has the opportunity to interbreed freely.

**Preserve:** As a noun, an area set apart for the protection of wildlife and natural resources. As a verb: to keep in safety; protect from danger or harm; to keep intact or unimpaired; maintain. Preservation and conservation are similar terms and are used in much the same way. Preservation connotes the act of securing the land and its values, whereas conservation generally is more broad and includes activities such as management of the land and its resources.

**Project(s):** Any activity that has biological impacts and is undertaken by the City or involves the issuance of a lease, permit, license, certificate, or other entitlement by the City.

**Proposed Hardline Areas:** Properties whose conservation and development areas have been planned as part of the HMP, as depicted on Figure 6. If development is proposed on these lands in substantial conformance with Figure 6, the development will be automatically permitted under the HMP. These areas have been agreed-upon in coordination with the landowners, the city, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the California Department of Fish and Game.

**Public Lands:** Properties owned by the City of Carlsbad or another governmental agency or special purpose district which are being addressed in this plan. NOTE: Some properties owned by governmental agencies are not included in the Plan at this time. These properties are noted on maps as "not a part."

**Section 7:** A section of the federal Endangered Species Act that provides for a consultation between a federal agency and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to ensure that any action authorized, funded, or carried out by the agency is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat or such species.

**Special Resource Area (SRA):** A component of the Focus Planning Areas established under the HMP, consisting of conserved habitat outside of HMP Cores and Linkages; SRAs are limited to areas with vernal pools, significant populations of listed plant species, and movement corridors for large mammals.

**Species:** Any distinct population of wildlife that interbreeds when mature.

**Standards:** Special land use regulations to be adopted by the City of Carlsbad to implement the HMP, as described in Section D. The Standards will be applied only to the lands designated as standards areas.

**Standards Areas:** Lands designated and depicted in Figure 15 of this plan which must be designed, permitted and developed in accordance with the Standards stated in Section D.

**Stepping Stone Linkage:** A discontinuous linkage or corridor that consists of a series of habitat patches separated by non-habitat patches. Individuals may move across the linkage by moving from one habitat patch to another. Generally, at least some of the stepping stones should support some breeding individuals of a species, at least in some years.

**Take:** As defined in the federal ESA, to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect a listed species, or attempt to do so. Under the California ESA, take of a listed or candidate species means "to hunt, pursue, capture, or kill or attempt the same." (See also Incidental Take.)

**Threatened Species:** Any species or subspecies that is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

**Unforeseen Circumstances:** Changes that could not reasonably have been anticipated and that result in a substantial and adverse change in a species' status.